

In the claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended)

A device for picking up animal waste

~~characterized in that~~ wherein

- it is provided with fixing elements, which may be removable and/or adjustable, elastic where appropriate, such as straps, burr-type fasteners, etc., or which may be permanent, such as double-sided adhesive, glue, etc., to be disposed on a leash reel, or alternatively to be integrated with said leash reel in a single one-piece apparatus,
- it is composed of two articulated arms for collecting the waste, which move in rotation, one arm moving inside the other, the ends of said arms being in contact in the closed position,
- the opening or closing of the device is actuated by the pressure of the thumb on a pushbutton, which pushbutton is linked to the articulated arms by a gear rack and toothed wheels.

Claim 2 (original)

The device for picking up animal waste as recited in claim 1,

wherein

the articulated arms support a disposable packaging unit used to collect the waste.

Claim 3 (original)

The device for picking up animal waste as recited in claim 1,

wherein

the articulated arms are actuated for closing and for collecting animal waste by means of an automated or

motorized mechanism.

Claim 4 (original) The device for picking up animal waste as recited in claim 1,
wherein
the articulated arms are actuated for opening and for releasing the collected waste by means of an automated or motorized mechanism.

Claim 5 (currently amended) The device for picking up animal waste as recited in claim 3 ~~or~~ 4,
wherein
the automated or motorized mechanism is a spring device.

Claim 6 (original) The device for picking up animal waste as recited in claim 2,
wherein
said disposable packaging unit is a bag made of plastic, paper or a nonwoven material.

Claim 7 (original) The device for picking up animal waste as recited in claim 2,
wherein
the disposable packaging units serving as refills, for example in the form of rolls or of folded bags integrated into boxes, are positioned by means of a system affixed to the outside of the pickup device or integrated therein.

Claim 8 (original) The device for picking up animal waste as in claim 2,
wherein

the disposable packaging units serving as refills are disposed in a box-type receptacle disposed in a recess of the leash reel that is provided with a central aperture optionally equipped with a movable obturating device.

Claim 9 (original) The device for picking up animal waste as recited in claim 2,

wherein

the disposable packaging units serving as refills are disposed folded one on top of the other to permit single withdrawal through the central aperture.

Claim 10 (currently amended) The device for picking up animal waste as recited in claim 2,

wherein

the disposable packaging units are wound around a shaft and the end of the first package is engaged in an aperture perforated in the receptacle ~~{and}~~ through which it can be withdrawn.